

FORUM

kirtlandcc.forum@kirtland.af.mil, 846-4240



COL. KATHIE CLOSE
377th Air Base Wing commander

What a good attitude!

I came in the Wyoming gate this afternoon around 4 p.m. when it was hailing and I said something to the guard "It's nice that you are out here in this nice cold hail." "Oh yeah, I love it. I hate it when it's hot." Man, there's a good attitude!

We went out the gate and came back around 7p.m. And coincidentally the same guy was there. So I said something about "well, it's a little warmer now" "Yeah, I hate it when it's warm like this."

I have never seen a gate guard with such a great attitude. It's just a pleasure to see and talk to him.

Thank you for taking the time to recognize one of our outstanding performers. Members of "C" Battery, 3/200 Air Defense Artillery, N.M. Army National Guard have been working our gates for a over two months and they have become an integral part of TEAM KIRTLAND.

We are proud of their professionalism and high standards.

Communicating from billeting can be costly

I am here on active duty with the Army National Guard and live in billeting. I use my computer quite a lot to communicate with family and friends back home as

well as for educational and bill paying purposes.

The charge for using the phone line in the billeting is currently \$1 a day when you sign on. I normally sign on daily to check e-mail, etc. A \$1 a day, plus my monthly service fee for an internet service, can be quite costly.

I would appreciate any suggestions to cut down on costs.

The Air Force contracted with a telephone company for lodging at stateside bases that charged 35 cents for each call to an Internet service provider. These charges quickly add up, especially if guests dial in multiple times each day.

The issue was addressed at a recent lodging forum and the phone company agreed to change their price structure to one fee a day.

We have other Internet access options to save you the costs of connection fees. Visit the library or the Route 66 Cafe in the Rio Grande Community Center. Both offer Internet service at no charge to the user. This service is available 9 a.m.-7:45 p.m. On Friday you can enjoy a cup of coffee or smoothie at the Daily Grind, 7-10:45 p.m., while surfing the Internet.

Contacting Forum

We want your suggestions and comments concerning Kirtland AFB. Give base agencies or the chain of

command the chance to resolve your concern before calling Forum. Callers' names won't be printed.

Write: 377th ABW/CC Forum
2000 Wyoming SE
Kirtland AFB NM 87117.

Customer service

Chapel, 846-5691
CE 24-hour Help Desk, 846-8222
Commissary, 846-9586
Computer help, 846-5926
Energy wasting, 846-4633
Exchange Service, 266-9887
Family Services, 846-0741
Finance, 846-8045, 846-6639
Law Enforcement Desk, 846-7926
Legal Services, 846-4217
Medical Clinic, 846-3406
Services Squadron, 853-7679

The 'fog of media war'

BY 1ST LT. CARLOS DIAZ

53rd Wing Public Affairs, Eglin AFB, Fla.

As the war in Iraq continues, we see another kind of war being waged on the Internet, television and the radio—the media war.

Who has the most current information?

Where are the bad guys?

How are we doing?

These are questions that everybody has been asking since the allied forces took on the mission of liberating Iraq from a vicious regime.

Since Operation Iraqi Freedom started, television, radio and the Internet are constantly competing to provide the latest information. This media is going the extra mile to cover all the angles of the story, on the battlefield and here at home. Their job is to get the information and relay it to the rest of the world.

One problem with this is that the bad guys are among those watching. September 11 showed the United States that the enemy is not that far away anymore.

Military members, their families and civilians working for the armed forces have to be extra careful in what they discuss in public, especially when contacted by the media.

Current operations have made this group of people a target for information. Information like names, addresses, preparations for deployment and family members left behind are bits of information

that, by themselves, might not be viewed as dangerous but can be used against us if accessed by the wrong crowd.

With the "fog of the media war," media outlets are eager to get any information available. Sometimes, this information can affect operations.

To avoid the possibility of giving important information that can be used against the U.S. and coalition forces, public affairs members are trained and prepared to respond to media queries.

Their training lessens the risk of releasing information that could be harmful to current operations. These people work behind the scenes to make sure that people are protected from unwanted questioning and from revealing sensitive information.

Although we live in a free society and people are allowed to talk to the press, military members and their families are urged to let public affairs assist them. Public affairs will know what to do and can guide military and family members through dealing with the media. They can also respond to reporters directly on behalf of the military members or families.

They are also able to distinguish between legitimate media and people who don't care about what information goes out to the world.

The media is everywhere, is part of everyone's lives, and has influenced the way the war is being conducted. Public affairs keeps everyone safe and well-informed in this media-saturated environment.

Quote

When asked if our plans for Iraq were just an example of empire building Colin Powell is said to have replied:

Over the years, the United States has sent many of its fine young men and women into great peril to fight for freedom beyond our borders. The only amount of land we have ever asked for in return is enough to bury those that did not return.



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OFFICER FORCE DEVELOPMENT

Significant changes coming to way we educate, train, assign Total Force

BY GEN. LESTER L. LYLES

Air Force Materiel Command commander

FROM GEN. LYLES—The attached document is a message I have edited which originated from Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche. It describes the changes we are making in the way we educate, train, and assign our Officer Force. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to discuss this document with your commanders. Thank you for all your hard work. Be safe and Godspeed.

The Chief of Staff's Total Force Development Sight Picture announced our intent to make significant changes to the way we educate, train and assign our Total Force. I want you to know Force Development has complete support from Senior Leadership, including me, and that we are all committed to this for the long term. We are quickly making Force Development a reality, and I'd like to provide some insight on where we are today, and where we are heading.

Two major steps in implementing Force Development are happening right now.

The first involves rethinking what we offer officers as developmental education opportunities as new majors.

The second involves a new way of thinking about developing officers, rather than simply assigning them, with the stand-up of a Development Team concept. While the initial effort has focused on officer development, work on the implementation plans for enlisted, civilian and reserve development is underway. I will share with you the details of those plans as soon as I can.

Besides expanding the envelope of what opportunities we will offer within Intermediate Developmental Education, we are working to develop a flexible curriculum to replace what



Gen. Lester L. Lyles, Air Force Materiel Command commander.

learning will experience new programs. The resident program curriculum will be presented in modules. The Strategy, Airpower and Leadership module and the Joint Warfighting module form the basis for professional military education in both the resident and distance learning programs. The Specialized Studies module presented at the resident program will provide additional education in two areas.

The first is a two-week command course intended to prepare officers for command. The second is education specifically designed to prepare officers for a "connected" assignment, including assignments outside of your primary career field. We are developing delivery methods to ensure whatever developmental opportunity is completed, you will get

the education every Airman needs—while earning Joint Professional Military Education Phase 1 credit for future joint assignments.

The second major focus is the establishment of Development Teams to provide a robust means to manage and guide our people and their careers. These teams will be comprised of functional and major command representatives in a synergistic relationship with the assignment teams we use today. As appropriate, they will assess each officer's capabilities and potential and provide broad feedback on next developmental steps, weighing preferences and other factors against current and future Air Force needs.

We are completely reworking today's Preference Worksheet to create what will be called a Development Plan. Your individual Development Plan will be a living document that provides an active communication between you, your raters and your Development Team. Your plan will give you a tool to express near-term assignment and educational goals and longer-term career aspirations, and will also serve as

a mentoring tool for use by Development Teams and more senior officers in your chain.

It will be a big step in providing you with a realistic picture of how your plans and capabilities match with Air Force requirements. It's going to be important and everyone will need to get to know how it works.

I know many of you are asking whether or not you should continue your current professional military education efforts. I advise you to do so. Clearly, we are expanding opportunities, but resources and mission requirements will impact the final number of opportunities that we can make available. Let me assure you that completing the professional military education program in which you are enrolled will be recognized.

You may also have similar concerns about advanced academic degrees.

You should continue working on an advanced academic degree or start an off-duty degree program only if you consider the work to be personally fulfilling and worth the time you invest. We haven't yet decided the best way to document how graduate education adds to your ability to contribute to the Air Force, but we remain dedicated to eliminating "square filling" graduate degrees that take time from your job and family and don't add combat capability.

Many of you may have also heard about an increased emphasis being placed on instructor duty. As an institution, we must also acknowledge the value of instructor duty and reward those who take on that responsibility. Exactly how we will highlight this in individual's records is yet to be determined, but it will happen.

There is still much to be done and I know that you have many questions about the details. A Force Development Web site has been established and you can find links to it on the Air University, Air Force Personnel Center and Air Force Directorate of Personnel home pages. The site contains the Secretary's Vector and the Chief's Sight Pictures that provide information on the implementation plans for each component of our force. It offers answers to questions you have asked and a means for you to ask new questions.

I urge you to become a frequent visitor to the site, and to stay abreast of the most up to date information. The details *will* evolve—your senior leadership and the Air Force personnel community are working to ensure we get it right—so expect change and some uncertainty, but expect it to be for the better.

We will be more deliberate about how we develop you as an officer and, with your active involvement, we will make the most of the training, education and experience we provide you and that you work hard to get. I will make sure that the time and effort you put forth in your training and education are both worthwhile and rewarded.

Force Development is a profound change in how the Air Force views its responsibility to develop our greatest asset, you. It is one of the biggest things we've done for our people since I've been in the Air Force, and I am absolutely committed to its implementation. It is the way we will do business from now on.

'I want you to know Force Development has complete support from Senior Leadership, including me, and that we are all committed to this for the long term.'

Gen. Lester L. Lyles

Air Force Materiel Command commander

we currently have at Air Command and Staff College, and to identify exactly which other programs can satisfy the education needs for our mid-level officers and civilians.

As the Chief's Sight Picture stated, "one size fits all" doesn't really work for the Air Force, or you. So, we selected an additional 146 people for the coming academic year and are sending them to the Air Force Institute of Technology, the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., and the Joint Military Intelligence College at Bolling AFB, D.C., thus expanding our education options. People that attend these non-traditional schools, which will include the distance-learning version of the Air Command and Staff College curriculum, will receive the same Intermediate Developmental Education credit as those that attend traditional schools. We are going to continue to define other programs to open up opportunities in the follow-on years, and officers will be sent to each school based on their backgrounds, skills and potential follow-on development.

Those that attend Air Command and Staff College in residence or take it via distance